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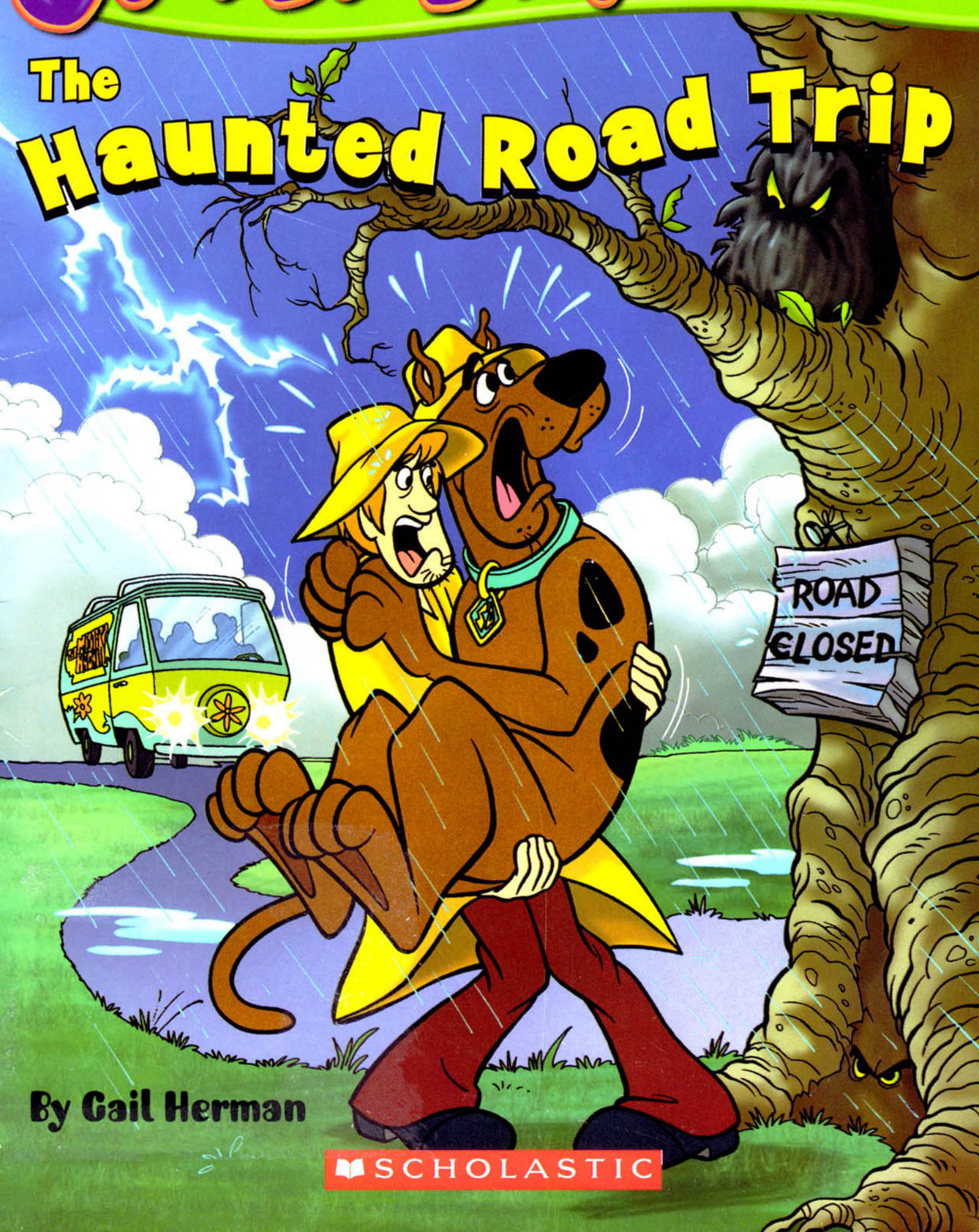
SCOOBY-DOO! READERS

Level 3

The Haunted Road Trip



By Gail Herman

SCHOLASTIC

The Haunted Road Trip

By Gail Herman
Illustrated by Duendes del Sur

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Designed by Michael Massen

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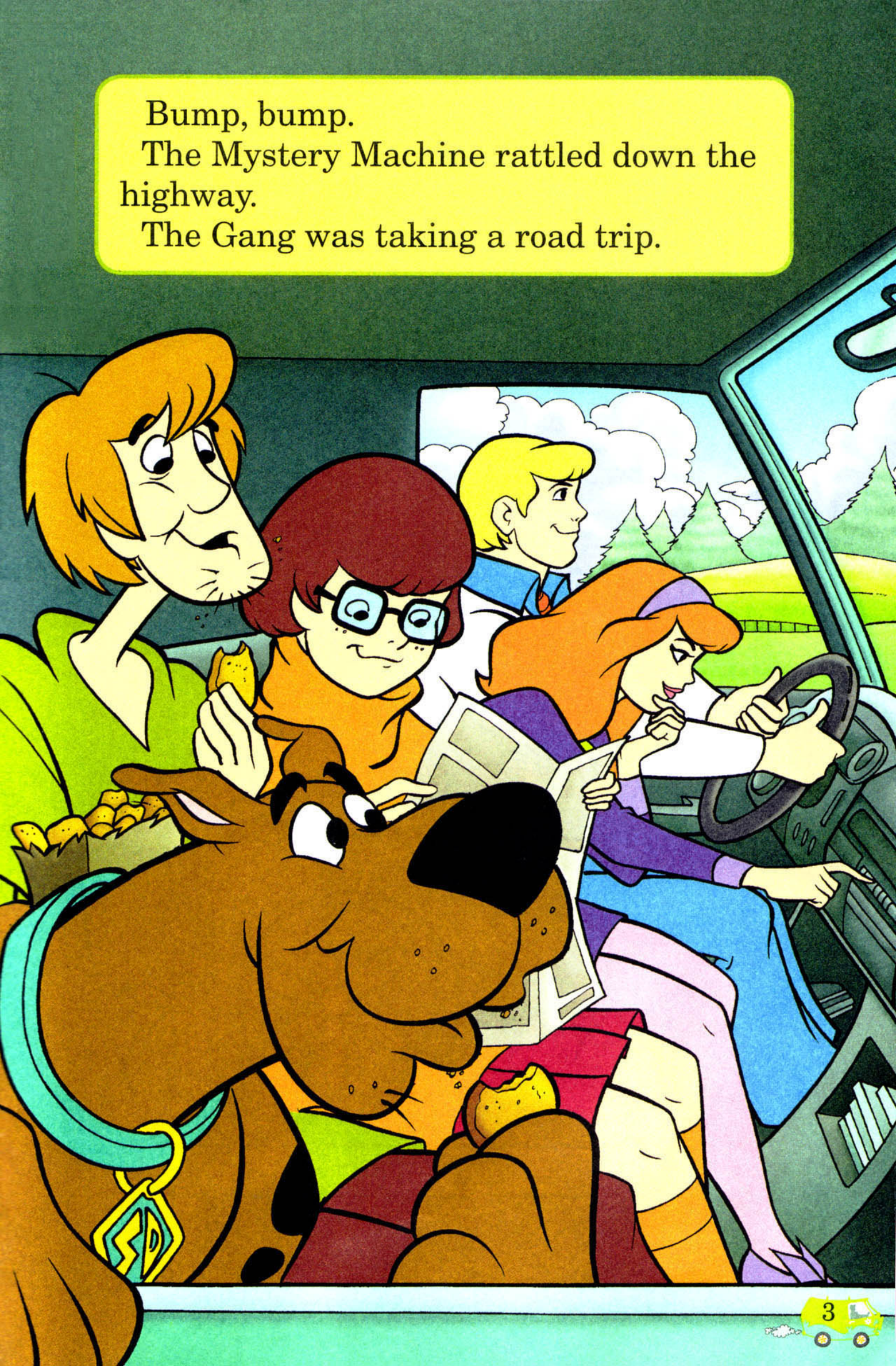
Bump, bump.

The Mystery Machine rattled down the highway.

The Gang was taking a road trip.



All at once, the sky grew dark.
Lightning flashed.
Thunder boomed.
Rain poured down in sheets.

"Ruh-oh!" said Scooby-Doo.
"Uh-oh is right," said Shaggy.
Minutes later, the highway was closed.
"We have to pull off here," Fred said.

Fred drove up to a roadside motel.
Its neon sign flashed: CREEPY MOTEL.
"Zoinks!" said Shaggy. "Can't we stop somewhere less . . . *creepy*?"

"This motel might have a strange name," said Velma, "But it's the only place around."

"I'm sure it's fine," added Fred. "Let's get some rest."

"*This* is fine?" Shaggy asked Scooby when they entered their room. "*No way!*"

Thunder shook the windows. Quickly, Shaggy closed the drapes.

"Now what?" he asked Scooby.

"Room rervice?" asked Scooby.

"Like, great idea, good buddy," said Shaggy. He picked up the phone to order room service.

There was no dial tone.

"Ree Vee?" Scooby suggested next.
Shaggy turned on the TV.

A spooky graveyard filled the screen. Ghosts floated in the air.

"Nightmare-athon," Shaggy read. "All scary movies. All the time."

"Quick!" cried Shaggy. "Change the channel!" But they couldn't.

No food!
Monsters on TV!
What could be scarier?

TAP, TAP.
Suddenly, something knocked at the window.
Shaggy and Scooby saw a ghostly arm.
Woooooh!
An eerie howl sounded.

"Like, let's get out of — "
CRASH!
Suddenly, the lights went out.

"Like, on the other hand," Shaggy said, "Let's stay right here."

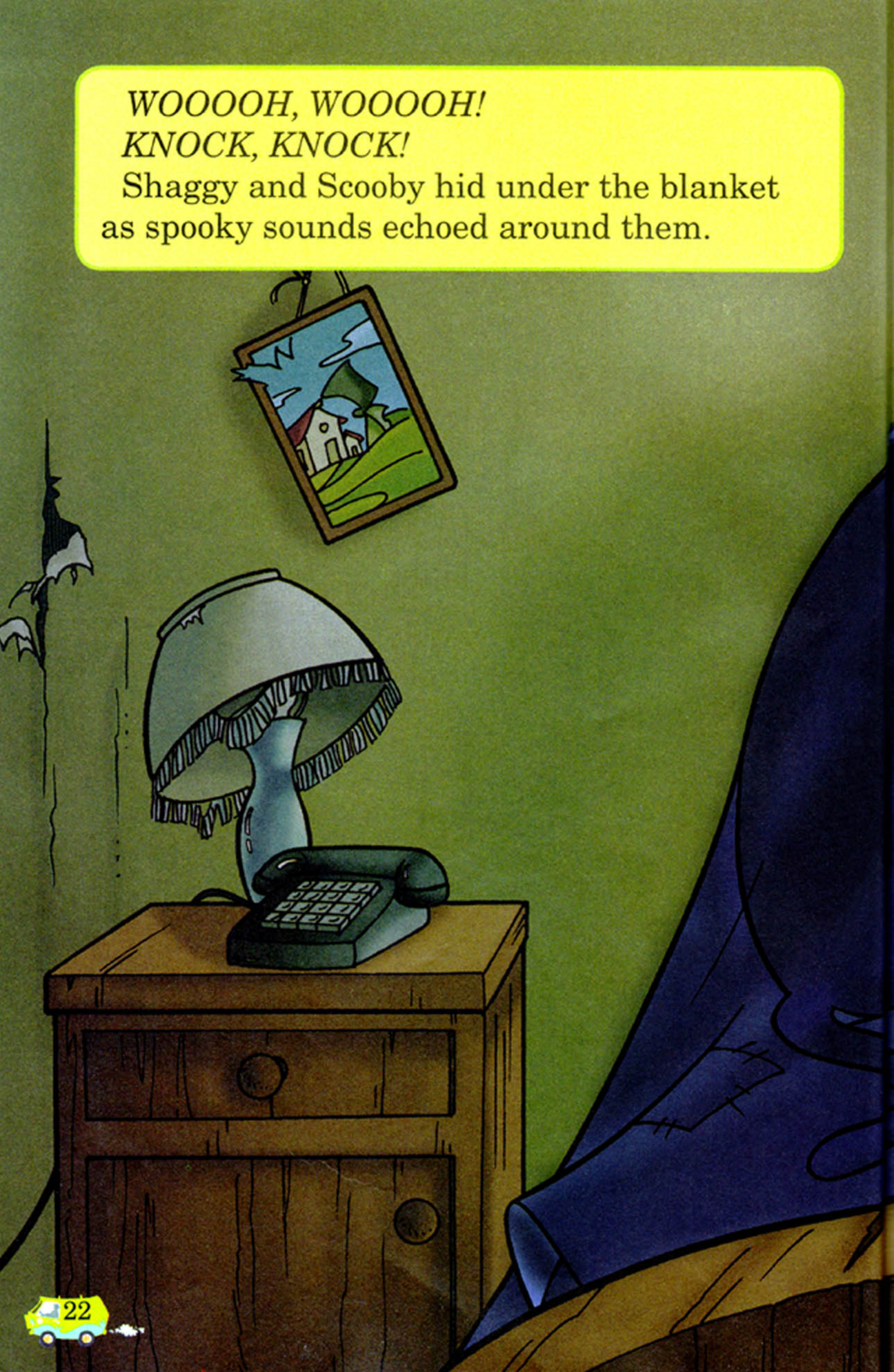
Shaggy and Scooby started to shiver.
"Raggy?"
"Yeah, Scoob?"
"Rit's rold in here."

They stumbled around, looking for a blanket.
Shaggy opened a drawer. Inside, he found a flashlight.

Shaggy opened a closet door.
"Bingo!" he said. "Blanket!"
But when he lifted it, he saw something terrifying . . .

A ghost!
Shaggy and Scooby leaped onto the bed.

WOOOOH, WOOOOH!
KNOCK, KNOCK!
Shaggy and Scooby hid under the blanket as spooky sounds echoed around them.



They were too scared to get the rest of the gang.
They were too scared to do anything but fall asleep.

The next morning, the storm had ended. Velma, Fred, and Daphne woke Shaggy and Scooby up.

"Like, this place is haunted," Shaggy said. "Let's get out of here!"

"The TV only plays scary movies," Shaggy exclaimed.

Fred jiggled the remote control. "It's broken!" he said.

"But we heard moans and howls, too," said Shaggy.

"It was just the wind," Velma explained.

Velma opened the door. A tree had fallen on the power lines.

"So no phones or lights," said Fred.

"What about the monster at the window?" Shaggy asked.

"That was just a broken branch," said Daphne. "See?"

"But there's a real ghost! In the corner!" Shaggy cried.

"It's an old dressmaker's dummy," Velma explained. "A traveling salesman must have left it behind."

"We still need to get out of here," Shaggy said. "Like, this place is *creepy*. Remember?"

"Reah!" Scooby agreed.

"No it's not," said Daphne.
"The sign was broken. It's really the *Sleepy* Motel."
"And Restaurant!" Shaggy added happily.
"Restaurant?" Scooby wagged his tail.

A little later, Fred honked the horn.
"What's your rush?" asked Shaggy. "We've got to have snacks for our road trip!"
"Scooby-Dooby Doo!"

SCOOBY-DOO WE NEED YOU!

Fasten your seatbelts! You're in for a bumpy ride when Scooby and the gang hit the road! This trip turns scary when a monster of a storm forces the Mystery, Inc. gang to spend the night at the *Creepy Motel*. Is it just a name, or is this rustic rest-stop actually haunted? Only Scooby-Doo and the gang can solve this mystery.

Scooby-Doo Readers are just for you. Solve mysteries with Fred, Daphne, Velma, Shaggy, and Scooby, too!

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